

baby blue and lace-embroidered front; another in pink satin, another in light blue satin confined with silk, and so on, which he carefully says was "black."—Boston Transcript.

## THE SHARON DIVORCE TRIAL.

IMPORTANT NEW EXPERT TESTIMONY FOR THE PLAINTIFF.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., July 26.—This week a new phase has been developed in the shrewd divorce case. Max Gimpel, one of the acknowledged experts who was called by the defense, was called on the stand by the plaintiff and astounded everybody by his testimony. The defense has sought to show that the so-called "Dear wife" letters had been tampered with, and that the word "wife" in them was not written by Mr. Sharon. But he had been married over an acre of ground. Max Gimpel, however, now asserts that there has been no erasure in any of these letters, and that the word "wife" is in the same handwriting as the rest of the letters, and that the handwriting is Mr. Sharon's. He also positively denied the tracing theory, declaring that there was no sign of tracing in any of the letters, and that they could not have been prepared in that way without leaving an unmistakable evidence of the fact. As this testimony is among the most important that has been adduced during the trial, there is no question as to the capacity of the expert, it may interest your readers to have some of his statements as he made them in court. In the first place the marriage contract was submitted to him.

"I am of opinion that Mr. Barnes lied that he had as a witness an expert, and Barnes lied that there was no question as to the witness's ability."

"Tyler, are you familiar with the defendant's handwriting?"

"Gimpel.—Yes, sir; at Mr. Barnes's suggestion I have examined a great deal of it."

The contract was shown, and Tyler said: "It is signed 'estate'."

"We give the signature to the husband as a 'spouse'."

"Tyler—*On Exhibit 37, and see if you can detect any evidence of erasure and rewriting in the word 'wife.'*

"Tyler—*There are any in Exhibit No. 11? (Another 'dear wife' letter.)*

"Gimpel.—No sir; you'll seem entirely in the writing of Plaintiff."

Exhibits 13 and 16, both "dear wife" letters, were submitted with similar results. The witness said it would require a scientific person to make any tracing.

"Tyler—*On the other side of the word "wife" bear any resemblance to the characteristics of the plaintiff's writing?*

"Gimpel.—There is a striking resemblance in the 'w's.'"

"Tyler—*Is there any resemblance for characters later in the word?*

"Gimpel.—Yes sir; there are many ways that the opportunity is lessened."

"Tyler—*Is there any peculiarity in the word "wife" in Exhibit 13?*

"Gimpel.—Not as far as I remember. It is written with a break between the "w" and "i," as is characteristic of Mr. Sharon, while the plaintiff always connects the two."

"Tyler—*Is there any peculiarity in the word "wife" in Exhibit 16?*

"Gimpel.—Yes sir; the witness is written with a break between the "w" and "i," as is characteristic of Mr. Sharon, while the plaintiff always connects the two."

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